



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held May 11, 2004, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“The AIDS epidemic is a global crisis, causing the deaths of 25 million men, women, and children worldwide, while approximately 40 million individuals around the world are estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS has been a devastating disease in the United States, with nearly half a million AIDS-related deaths since the epidemic began. As many as 950,000 Americans currently live with HIV and over 40,000 new HIV infections occur in the United States each year.

“Despite the availability and success of HIV treatment drugs in the United States, the best long-term hope for controlling the AIDS epidemic worldwide lies in the development of safe, effective, and affordable preventative HIV vaccines. The support of the community is essential in efforts to overcome the stigma and myths about HIV vaccine research, with the development of an effective HIV vaccine depending upon individuals and communities informing, educating, and supporting others. Several thousand people have already volunteered to take part in HIV vaccine studies. National HIV Awareness Day is a day to recognize those involved in HIV vaccine research and to educate Americans about the need for vaccines to prevent HIV. The 2004 theme for National HIV Vaccine Awareness Day, ‘Real People, Real Progress,’ acknowledges the contribution of tens of thousands of study volunteers, scientists, and health professionals committed to finding a safe and effective HIV vaccine.”

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Tom Myers, General Counsel for the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board proclaimed May 18, 2004, as "National HIV Vaccine Awareness Day" throughout Los Angeles County and encouraged all citizens to take part in activities and events designed to promote awareness and understanding of current HIV vaccine research efforts.

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Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- County Counsel
- Director of Health Services
- Director of Public Health

Letter sent to:

- Advocacy Coordinator, AIDS Project Los Angeles